

Application No. : 09/890,366
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Amendments To The Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. The listing of claims present each claim with its respective status shown in parentheses. Only those claims being amended herein show their changes in highlighted form, i.e., insertions appear as underlined text (e.g., insertions) while deletions appear as strikethrough text (e.g., ~~deletions~~) or double-bracketed text (e.g., [[deletions]]). All original claims and previously presented claims appear as clean text.

In the following list, Claim 3 is canceled.

In the following list, Claims 1 and 2 remain as previously presented by an amendment submitted on March 31, 2001, in International Application No. PCT/KR00/00049.

Claim 1 *(Previously Presented)* A method of manufacturing fine particles including metallic particles, ceramic particles, glass particles or composite particles, comprising the steps of:

supplying particle-forming reactants into a flame formed in a burner;
generating particle nuclei from the reactants, which form aggregates by colliding with each other in the flame; and

irradiating at least one laser beam into the aggregates in the flame so that the temperature of the aggregates rapidly increases and the aggregates are fused and sintered into fine particles in the flame.

Claim 2 *(Previously Presented)* The method according to claim 1, wherein the wavelength of the laser beam is close to the main absorption wavelength band of the particles generated in the flame.

Claim 3 *(Canceled)*